

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 181

BY REPRESENTATIVE JIMMY HARRIS

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the New Orleans City Council to adopt ordinances that prohibit loitering and the consumption of alcoholic beverages within and along designated linear parks, greenways, walking and biking paths, sidewalks, and neutral grounds throughout the city of New Orleans and within three hundred feet of any playground, church, public library, or school.

WHEREAS, many local jurisdictions across the country have established loitering laws to protect against a wide range of behaviors that are generally perceived as undesirable, including but not limited to public begging, drug dealing, public intoxication, solicitation of prostitution, and gang violence; and

WHEREAS, persons who loiter jeopardize the public's safety and welfare and increase fear among the community; and

WHEREAS, there has been a continual problem in the city of New Orleans with individuals loitering and consuming alcoholic beverages in public spaces; and

WHEREAS, the public spaces in the city of New Orleans are vibrant and important community gathering places with increasing pedestrian and vehicular traffic; and

WHEREAS, the presence of people sitting or lying in these busy areas inhibits the space available for public passages and presents a hazard to pedestrians who may have to step into the roadway to bypass these individuals; and

WHEREAS, many of the public spaces in the city of New Orleans are playgrounds, churches, public libraries, and schools or areas near these places; and

WHEREAS, the city of New Orleans should be committed to making the pedestrian environment safe, accessible, free from obstruction, and friendly for people of all ages, income levels, and cultures; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the New Orleans City Council take immediate action to curb loitering and the consumption of alcoholic beverages in public spaces as the general public has expressed grave concern about these matters.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the New Orleans City Council to adopt ordinances that prohibit loitering and the consumption of alcoholic beverages within and along designated linear parks, greenways, walking and biking paths, sidewalks, and neutral grounds throughout the city of New Orleans and within three hundred feet of any playground, church, public library, or school.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the New Orleans City Council.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES